

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 remain herein. Claims 3-6 also remain herein but are currently withdrawn from consideration. Claim 1 is amended.

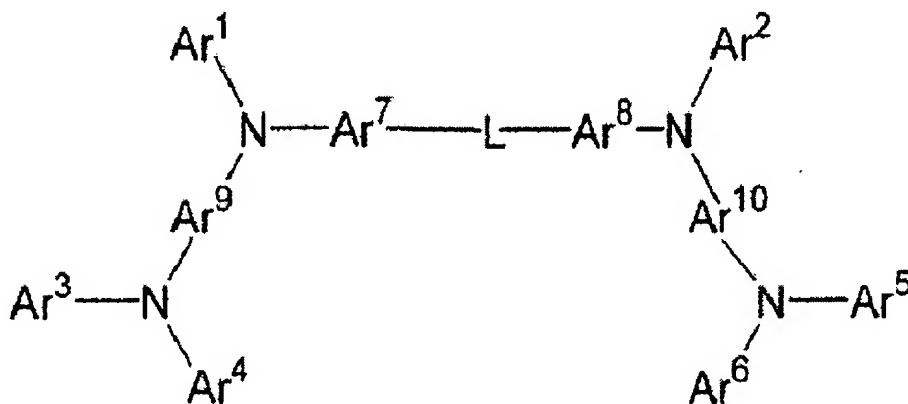
1. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The Office Action alleges that the specification fails to teach compounds covering the entire scope of the claimed invention because there are no examples of a compound having an aryl or arylene group with 50 carbon atoms. Claim 1 as now amended claims compounds with the recited aryl and arylene groups having 18 carbon atoms. The naphthacenyl groups described on pages 6 and 7 of the specification include 18 carbon atoms. Furthermore, example compounds (H43) includes 16 carbon atoms in groups Ar⁴ and Ar⁶ and compound (H44) includes 18 carbon atoms in groups Ar⁴ and Ar⁶. Applicants were in possession of the full scope of claim 1 as now amended to claim aryl and arylene groups with 18 carbon atoms. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

2. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Office Action has pointed to no specific ambiguity in the recited claim language. The questions posed in the Office Action at page 5 appear to relate to the breadth of claim 1, not the clarity of the recited scope. MPEP § 2173.04 states, "Breadth of a claim is not to be equated with indefiniteness. If the scope of the subject matter embraced by the claims is clear, and if applicants have not otherwise indicated that they intend the invention to be of a scope different from that defined in the claims, then the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph." (citation omitted) See applicants' response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112,

first paragraph. The additional rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn.

3. Claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kawamura PCT published application no. WO/00/14174 A1. This PCT application corresponds to Kawamura U.S. Patent 6,541,129.

Claim 1 as amended claims an aromatic amine derivative represented by the following Formula (1):

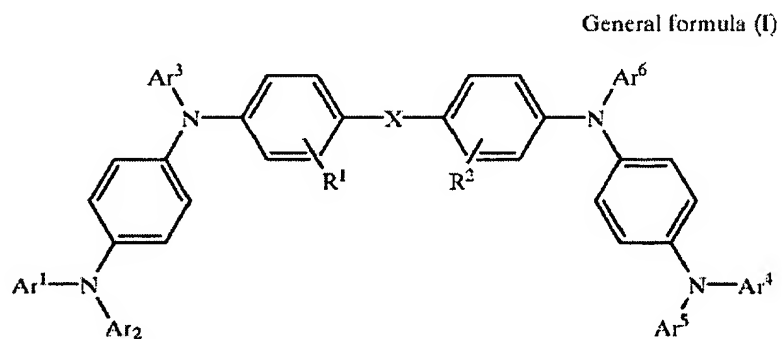


(1)

wherein Ar¹ to Ar² each represent a substituted or non-substituted condensed aryl group having 10 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms; Ar³ to Ar⁶ each represent a substituted or non-substituted aryl group having 6 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms; Ar⁷ to Ar¹⁰ each represent a substituted or non-substituted arylene group having 6 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms; substituents of

Ar⁷ and Ar⁸ may form a ring; L represents a single bond, an ether bond, a thioethers bond, a substituted or non-substituted arylene group having 6 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms, a substituted or non—substituted heteroarylene group having 6 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms, a substituted or non-substituted alkylene group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms or a substituted or non-substituted alkylidene group having 2 to 18 carbon atoms; provided that the conditions of (1) and (2) are satisfied: (1) at least one of Ar³ to Ar⁶ is a substituted or non—substituted condensed aryl group having 10 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms; and (2) at least one of Ar¹ to Ar² is a substituted or non-substituted condensed aryl group having 12 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms.

Kawamura discloses a compound of general formula (I)



where Ar¹ to Ar⁶ represent an aryl group having from 6 to 24 nucleus carbon atoms, which may be substituted with a hydrogen atom, an alkyl or an alkoxy group having from 1 to 6 carbon atom(s), an aryl group having from 6 to 24 nucleus carbon atoms, or a styryl group.

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However, Kawamura fails to teach or suggest that (1) at least one of Ar¹, Ar², Ar⁴, and Ar⁵ (analogous to Ar³ to Ar⁶ herein) is a substituted or non-substituted condensed aryl group having 10 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms and (2) at least one of Ar³ and Ar⁶ (analogous to Ar¹ and Ar² herein) is a substituted or non-substituted condensed aryl group having 12 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms. Indeed, not a single embodiment in Kawamura utilizes this unique configuration. Furthermore, the Office Action provides no motivation or suggestion to modify Kawamura to yield the present invention. Accordingly, Kawamura alone is an insufficient basis for a rejection under Section 103(a). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

4. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected for nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claim 1 of Kawamura U.S. Patent 6,541,129. Applicants submit that the Office Action does not establish that claims 1 and 2 are obvious over claim 1 of Kawamura. However, in an effort to advance this application towards allowance, applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome this rejection.

For all of the foregoing reasons, applicants request that these rejections be withdrawn and claims 1 and 2 be allowed. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge or credit any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, she is invited to telephone applicant's undersigned representative.

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Respectfully submitted,

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